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REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are currently pending.

The Patent Office is thanked for its indication that claims 1-11, 16-19, and 24-27 are allowed. Applicant has further amended claims 12-15 and 20-23 to incorporate subject matter from the allowed claims. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Patent Office rejected claims 12-15 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Mitty, U.S. Patent No. 6,145,079.

For a claim to be anticipated, each and every non-inherent claim limitation must be disclosed in a single reference. MPEP § 2131.

Claims 12 and 20 have been amended to incorporate subject matter similar or identical to that found in the allowed claims. Claims 13-15 depend from claim 12. Claims 21-23 depend from claim 20.

Claim 12 recites

A method for authenticating a network device over a network, comprising: generating a certificate; sending the certificate to an other network device, wherein the other network device enables storage of the certificate; resending the certificate to the other network device; comparing the resent certificate to the stored certificate; and if the resent certificate and the stored certificate are determined to be substantially the same, receiving authentication.

Claim 20 recites

An apparatus for receiving authentication over a network, comprising: a first component configured to generate a certificate; a second component, coupled to the first component, configured to send the certificate to a server; and a third component, coupled to the second component, configured to resend the certificate to the server over the network, wherein resending the certificate enables the server to authenticate a client based, in part, on a comparison of the sent certificate and the resent certificate to determine if the sent certificate and the resent certificate are substantially the same.

Because claim 12 recites “comparing the resent certificate to the stored certificate; and if

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the resent certificate and the stored certificate are determined to be substantially the same, receiving authentication” and claim 20 recites “wherein resending the certificate enables the server to authenticate a client based, in part, on a comparison of the sent certificate and the resent certificate to determine if the sent certificate and the resent certificate are substantially the same,” claims 12-15 and 20-23 are clearly allowable over Mitty.

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of the claims 12-15 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Mitty, and to allow all of the pending claims 1-27 as now presented for examination. An early notification of the allowability of all of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted:

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

8/21/2007 Clairine F. Mian
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